



ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL HERALD



245 VALENCIA STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103 • 415 864-8000 • FAX 415 431-5860 • E-MAIL office@annunciation.org

SPECIAL EDITION - STEWARDSHIP 2000

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Annunciation 2000 Remembering Our Past Embracing Our Future

Thank you to the following parishioners whose pledges were received from December 1- January 10, 2000.
They are among the first to make a financial commitment to God's work through our church.

Azemera Aberha
Demetria Aleck
Patricia Aleck
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Asprogerakas
Michael Bagatelos
Peter Bagatelos
Constantine Barlas
Michael & Mary Bazigos
Frank & Chrysanthé Boudoures
Toula Caloyanides
Eleni Carter
Mary Castro
Phillip & Annette Chiappari
Helen Christopher
Susan Condon
George Copulos
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Costakis
Katherine Costopoulos
Gus & Nan Cusulos
Helen Delakis
Evangeline Drake
Mr. & Mrs. Gus Franco
Maria Galanis
Demece Garepis
Mr. & Mrs. Geannacopoulos
John & Kay George
Sam George

Ourania Giannakaras
Yota Gofas
Lillian Hamberis
John & Rose Hunter
Angela Johnson
John & Kristina Kallas
Nicky Kappas
Maria Karas
Dr. & Mrs. George Karsant
Anna Marie Karsant
Angeliki Karvounaris
Gari Katsanis
Eva Paul Koulos
Pete & Voula Koutoulas
Claudine Krause
Robert & Catherine Larson
Loula Lekas
Angie & Ted Leventis
Helen Markanton
Theano Melitas
Peter Notaras
Manuel & Teia Nuris
Connie Panagotacos-White
Eugenia Panomitros
Robert Paolinelli
Mr. & Mrs. Louis Paponis
Vaso Pappas

Christine & Lester Pezo
Annette Phillips
Dean Poulakidas
Georgene Poulakidas
Jennifer Poulakidas
Sakee & Irene Poulakidas
Mr. & Mrs. Demetrius Rally
Dr. Stephen Saribalís
Rose Sogotis
Mr. & Mrs. John Sooklaris
Anthony & Helen Sooklaris
Nicholas Svetcoff
Nick & Joy Tamaras
Helen Tsalamakos
Mr. & Mrs. Dimitrios Tsokas
Athena Tsougarakis
Nicholas & Vasiliki Tzafopoulos
James Tzortzis
Andrew & Efrosine Vellis
Vivian Vellis
Basil John Vlahos
Neal White
Brett Anastatios Williamson
Bessy & Gerald Xepoleas
Emmanuel & Mary Yannaghas
Denise & Bret Yeilding
Marvin & Bessie York

LETTER FROM THE STEWARDSHIP CHAIR

As I considered Stewardship 2000, looking for a fresh, new approach to invite our community to participate in our program, I kept being reminded of all the people that had dedicated their life to Annunciation. Ours is not a community that needs a lot of prodding to get the job done. Annunciation members have always risen to the occasion and done what it takes! The slogan naturally fell right into place. "Remembering our Past...Embracing our future". Our Stewardship committee feels this phrase aptly describes the Annunciation Cathedral as it takes steps not only to realize the completion of our facility, and grow our community, but also to begin the awesome task of building the new Cathedral.

Our Stewardship 2000 Kick-off luncheon was a huge success! It was exciting to see all the old photographs from 1914-1924. Many members were able to recognize family members. Everyone enjoyed looking at the old Annunciation scrapbooks, ledgers, and mementoes. Our Roots. Let us remember those links, those connections, which will enable us to use the past as a steppingstone.

As we make our plans for the future, it is imperative that each member help in the planning. You can give in so many ways. Your time, talent, and treasure (money). The Stewardship Committee asks that you fill out your pledge card TODAY and mail or bring it in to the church office ASAP. Plans for 2000 cannot be made until we know how much income we have coming in. Will we meet our expenditures? Can we add another part-time priest? Can we better facilitate our children's programs?

If we look closely at the figures, it becomes clear that our parish cannot fully support itself solely on pledges from the community. We must rely on funds received from outside fund-raisers such as the festival, Millennium calendar, & special events. When looking at the expenses of our parish, we must remember that such a large facility being utilized nearly every day and night is going to have

large utility bills, higher insurance, etc. Are you still pledging the same amount you pledged while we were in the Bausch & Lomb building? With inflation and a new facility, PLEASE consider increasing your pledge.

My purpose in writing to you regarding stewardship is to ask you for a pledge contribution beyond your established level of membership --- specifically if you have been giving the same amount for several years, please consider an increase to help our community continue to grow. Please know that this special request comes with a great deal of gratitude for your present support, and for your genuine love of Annunciation Cathedral.

Thank you for considering your commitment to Annunciation!

I wish you a Happy New Year.

Warmest Regards,

Denise Yeilding,
Stewardship Chair

THE STEWARDSHIP OF GOD THE FATHER

We understand God as a Trinity, that is, a God of three equal, yet unique persons that exist in perfect union. As attested by Scripture we know that the Word of God is God in action . . . creating, revealing, and redeeming while the Spirit worked, works, and shall ever work in Creation . . . sustaining, renewing, and sanctifying. Now, we shall focus our attention on the Stewardship of God the Father.

God the Father is distinguished from the other persons of the Trinity as He has certain attributes and properties. God the Father is first and foremost unbegotten and paternal to both the Son that He naturally and eternally begets and the Spirit that He emanates. In other words, He is unborn, uncaused, and without beginning, being the root and source of both the Son and the Spirit.

The Stewardship of God the Father is best understood as "agape" - love. Being the God Who is Love, our Father in heaven does all that He can for the life and salvation of humankind and the world. He is

merciful and kind, longsuffering and compassionate, willing to forgive and to pardon sins so that one might partake in the life and love of God.

In concluding, we should realize that there exist no limitations to the loving Stewardship of the Father. Simply, the Stewardship of the Lord is unconditional and limitless, always pouring forth into all of Creation. As the noted theologian Vladimir Lossky has written, "Even if creatures did not exist, God would none the less manifest Himself beyond His essence; just as the rays of the sun would shine out from the solar disk whether or not there were any beings capable of receiving their light."

Very Reverend Archimandrite
J. Gabriel Karambis
Director of Stewardship
Archdiocese

GOALS FOR STEWARDSHIP

The Annunciation 2000 Stewardship committee has two goals: to raise \$400,000 and to reach 100% participation. As the year begins, this is an opportunity to ask for your support. (Parents: a reminder....Your children 18 years and older should begin now making a pledge to their parish. We realize young adults have limited funds so let their heart be their guide to their giving.)

You can also help get involved by reminding family members and friends to pledge. It will take the support and effort of all the members of our community to reach our goals.

Our kick-off luncheon raised \$ 54,000 which 13.5 % towards our monetary goal

We are blessed at Annunciation to have the support of our community. We have ambitious goals and need your support. Remember! If you are not prepared to make your gift in 2000, you can still make a pledge! Payments are due by December 31, 2000.

Your pledge payments may be made by cash, check, credit card, and with securities, in full or in installments.

FATHER STEPHEN'S THOUGHTS

The Archdiocese is asking the Parishes to consider tithing - that is, parishioners giving 10% of their income as this year 2000 Stewardship Pledge for the support of national ministries. Tithing is a biblical term.

In Leviticus (27.30) we are told that a tenth of everything we earn belongs to the Lord.

We realize that not everyone can give 10%.

In this special Stewardship issue we are providing you the chart below to help you decide on the amount of your Year 2000 Stewardship Pledge.

Thank you for your continuing support.

CALCULATIONS PROVIDED

Stewardship is Christian giving measured not by dollars, but as a portion of one's income. The question arises as to "What portion of one's income is a fair Stewardship Pledge to be given to God's work?"

Some individuals have expressed their need to have criteria in making their pledge. The following chart is provided for your convenience.

<u>Gross Income</u>	<u>1%</u>	<u>2%</u>	<u>3%</u>	<u>4%</u>	<u>5%</u>
\$10,000	\$100	\$200	\$300	\$400	\$500
\$20,000	\$200	\$400	\$600	\$800	\$1000
\$30,000	\$300	\$600	\$900	\$1200	\$1500
\$40,000	\$400	\$800	\$1200	\$1600	\$2000
\$60,000	\$600	\$1200	\$1800	\$2400	\$3000
\$70,000	\$700	\$1400	\$2100	\$2800	\$3500
\$80,000	\$800	\$1600	\$2400	\$3200	\$4000
\$90,000	\$900	\$1800	\$2700	\$3600	\$4500
\$100,000	\$1000	\$2000	\$3000	\$4000	\$5000

To use the above chart, simply locate your annual gross income on the left side. Select your Stewardship percentage, and locate the amount of your pledge from the chart. For gross income exceeding \$100,000 use the proportionate multiple of the above amount.

ΣΚΕΨΕΙΣ ΑΠΟ ΤΗΝ ΑΓΙΑ ΓΡΑΦΗ

"Εκαστος κατὰ δύναμιν τῶν χειρῶν ὑμῶν κατὰ τὴν εὐλογίαν Κυρίου τοῦ Θεοῦ σου, ἣν ἔδωκέν σοι. (Δευτερονόμιον 16,17)

"Οπου γάρ ἐστιν ὁ θησαυρός σου, ἐκεῖ ἔσται καὶ ἡ καρδία σου. (Κατὰ Ματθαῖον 6,21)

Περὶ δὲ τῆς λογιᾶς τῆς εἰς τοὺς ἁγίους, ὥσπερ διέταξα ταῖς ἐκκλησίαις τῆς Γαλατίας, οὕτως καὶ ὑμεῖς ποιήσατε. Κατὰ μίαν σαββάτου ἕκαστος ὑμῶν παρ' ἑαυτοῦ τιθέτω θησαυρίζων ὃ τι ἐὰν εὐδοῖται... (Πρὸς Κορινθίους Α' 16,1-2)

Τοῦτο δέ, ὁ σπείρων φειδομένως φειδομένως καὶ θερίσει, καὶ ὁ σπείρων ἐπ' εὐλογίαις ἐπ' εὐλογίαις καὶ θερίσει. (Πρὸς Κορινθίους Β' 9,6)

ΟΙ ΣΤΟΧΟΙ ΜΑΣ

Η επιτροπή του Καθεδρικού Ναού που φροντίζει για το Στεωαρδшип για το τρέχον έτος 2000 έχει σαν στόχους 1ο) να συλλέξει το ποσόν των \$400,000 για να μπορέσει η Κοινότητα μας να λειτουργήσει, ανταποκρινόμενη στις ανάγκες της όπως π.χ. τους μισθούς, τη πληρωμή χρέους, τα διάφορα προγράμματα, σχολικά, πολιτιστικά, θρησκευτικά, κλπ. και 2ο) να έχει τη συμμετοχή όχι ενός μέρους των μελών της Εκκλησίας μόνον, αλλά όλων των μελών, με άλλα λόγια 100 τοις 100 συμμετοχή! Διότι όλοι μας ανοίκουμε ες' ίσου, και όλοι μας, επομένως, έχουμε κάποια υποχρέωση στην μεγάλη οικογένεια του Θεού που λέγεται Εκκλησία. Η επιτροπή καλεί όλους όπως "γραφτούν,"

στην Κοινότητα, κάνοντας τη δήλωση τους (δηλαδή το pledge για το έτος 2000). Υπενθυμίζουμε ότι παιδιά άνω των 18 που μένουν στο ίδιο σπίτι με τους γονείς οφείλουν να συμπληρώσουν τη δική τους κάρτα, έστω και εάν είναι φοιτητές. Ασφαλώς αυτά, όπως και ο καθένας μας, θα δίνουν αυτά που μπορούν. Δεν έχει σημασία πόσο θα δώσει ο καθένας. Σημασία έχει ότι όλοι οφείλουν να δίνουν, "μέχρι εκεί που φθάνει το χέρι," όπως το λέει μία παλαιά παροιμία, και όπως μας εντέλλεται η Αγία Γραφή. Έτσι, με τη συμμετοχή όλων, θα φθάσουμε και τους δύο αυτούς στόχους και σαν μία ενωμένη, δυνατη κοινότητα πιστών, θα αναλάβουμε να κτίσουμε και τον Καθεδρικό μας Ναό. Και αυτό, διότι βλέπουμε το "παρεκκλήσι" μας να γεμίζει κάθε Κυριακή, τα παιδικά μας προγράμματα να είναι γεμάτα, το Κατηχητικό μας Σχολείο με όλο και περισσότερα παιδιά. Η Κοινότητα μας όλο και μεγαλώνει, και αυτό το οφείλουμε στη χάρη του Θεού και την πίστη των μελών μας. Εμείς, που αποτελούμε την επιτροπή Στεωαρδшип σας ευχαριστούμε που μας εμπιστεύεστε με τα καθήκοντα αυτά που αναλάβαμε, δηλαδή τη φροντίδα του προγράμματος αυτού. Το κάνουμε με ευχαρίστηση. Το κάνουμε, χωρίς αμοιβή, βέβαια, γιατί αγαπάμε τον Θεό, αγαπάμε την Εκκλησία, αγαπάμε εσάς. Βοηθήστε μας, συμπληρώνοντας τη κάρτα σας, ώστε να μπορέσουμε και μεις να εξυπηρετήσουμε καλλίτερα εσάς, τα μέλη αυτής της ευλογημένης Κοινότητας του Ευαγγελισμού της Θεοτόκου. Όπως γνωρίζετε, μπορείτε να αποπληρώσετε τη δήλωση σας είτε με επιταγή, είτε με μετρητά, είτε με κάρτα πίστωσης, ακόμα και με ακίνητα, μία φορά ή με δόσεις.

Stewardship

must be a state of being. It is how we live our Orthodox Christian Faith in the world based on our theology and ecclesiology centered in the love of Christ. It is the means in which we manage our God given spiritual gifts, seen and unseen, material and immaterial, physical and mystical.

"For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

(St. Matthew 6:21)

"But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully."

(II Corinthians 9:6)

"Upon the first day of the week let everyone of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him"

(I Corinthians 16:2)

"Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord, Your God which He has given to you."

(Deuteronomy 16:17)



Brett Williamson and Irene Melitas,
members of Stewardship Committee,
during December 12th Luncheon.

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245 VALENCIA STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103-2320